

Message Text

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21
ORIGIN EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 FEA-01 ERDA-05 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00

CIEP-01 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 FPC-01 H-02 INR-07

INT-05 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-03 SAM-01 OES-03

SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 FRB-03 PA-01 PRS-01 USIA-06

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APPROVED BY EA - LESTER E. EDMOND
L/EB - MR. STEPHEN BOND (PHONE)
EB/IFD/OIA - MR. RICHARD J. SMITH
----- 027196

R 160150Z APR 75
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

CONFIDENTIAL STATE 086477

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG, MY

SUBJECT: LEGISLATION ON OIL DISTRIBUTORS

REF: KUALA LUMPUR 1964.

1. WASHINGTON MANAGER FOR CALTEX CALLED AT DEPT APRIL 14 TO EXPRESS CONCERN OVER NEW PETROLEUM ACT AMENDMENT. HIS VIEWS PARALLELED THOSE EARLIER EXPRESSED IN WASHINGTON AND KUALA LUMPUR BY ESSO AND MOBIL. HE OBSERVED THAT CALTEX OFFICIALS, DISCUSSING AMENDMENT WITH GOM OFFICIALS IN KUALA LUMPUR, HAD FOUND THIRD-RANKING PETRONAS OFFICIAL, RASTAM, ESPECIALLY HARD LINE REGARDING REFINERY PROJECT, SUGGESTING PETRONAS MIGHT BUILD OWN REFINERY, AND HAD INDICATED THAT COMPANIES MIGHT ALSO LOSE PIONEER TAX STATUS

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IN THEIR VENTURES. CALTEX OFFICIAL AGREED, HOWEVER, THAT RASTAM'S VIEWS DID NOT SEEM TO BE SHARED BY OTHERS IN GOM. DEPTOFFS INFORMED CALTEX OFFICIAL THAT EMBASSY HAD CONVEYED TO FOREIGN OFFICE OUR CONCERN OVER AMENDMENT.

2. YOUR APPROACH TO FOREIGN OFFICE AND CONVERSATION WITH DATUK AHMAD ZAINAL WAS MOST HELPFUL, WITH ALL NECESSARY POINTS ABLY MADE. WE WILL CONTINUE TO BE DEEPLY INTERESTED IN ANY FURTHER INDICATIONS OF GOM INTENTIONS AS TO IMPLEMENTATION OF NEW AMENDMENT AND REACTIONS THERETO. WOULD

ALSO APPRECIATE YOUR VIEWS AS TO WHETHER GOM IS AWARE OF U.S. LEGISLATION RELATING TO NATIONALIZATION AND HAS GIVEN ANY THOUGHT TO ITS POSSIBLE APPLICATION TO ACTIONS MALAYSIANS MAY TAKE UNDER NEW AMENDMENT.

3. SEPTEL FORTHCOMING SHORTLY WILL DISCUSS LEGAL ASPECTS NEW AMENDMENT. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 26 AUG 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: LEGISLATIVE BILLS, NATIONALIZATION, PETROLEUM INDUSTRY
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 APR 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: RowellE0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE086477
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: EA/IMS:ECINGRAHAM
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: 11652 GDS
Errors: n/a
Film Number: D750132-0612
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t197504102/baaaahbk.tel
Line Count: 71
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, TEXT ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: RowellE0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 22 JUL 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <22 JUL 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <18 NOV 2003 by RowellE0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> sph 971128
Subject: n/a
TAGS: ENRG, MY, PETRONAS
To: KUALA LUMPUR
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006